

PROCEEDINGS
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A NEW FROG (*HYPEROLIUS POWERI*) FROM NATAL,
SOUTH AFRICA.

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In January of this year Mr. J. H. Power, of Kimberly, visited Stranger, near the mouth of Umvoti River, Natal, with a view to making a representative collection of the Polypedatidae of the region, thereby shedding light on the status of certain frogs described by Cope in 1862 (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, pp. 341-343).

Through the courtesy of Dr. E. R. Dunn and the authorities at the Academy of Natural Sciences, I was permitted to examine the Umvoti collection with the exception of one of Cope's types, *coccotis*, which appears to be lost. I consider it a synonym of *tuberilinguis* Smith of which Mr. Power secured a fine series that may be regarded as topotypic of *coccotis*.

At this time, however, it is not proposed to discuss the interesting results of this study, but to describe a very small species which appears to be unnamed. It is not *pusillus* (Cope), of which a score were collected by Power, and which confirm my (1936, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., 79, p. 407) conclusions (by direct comparison of types or paratypes of all except *microps*) that *pusillus*, *translucens*, *usaramoae* and *microps* are but a single species.

This new grass-frog is named after its discoverer, Mr. J. H. Power, in appreciation of his contributions to South African herpetology.

***Hyperolius poweri*, sp. nov.**

Type.—Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, No. 23,110. An adult ♂ from vicinity of the Umvoti River, near Stranger, Natal, Union of South Africa. Collected by J. H. Power, Esq., January, 1938.

Paratypes.—Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Nos. 23,111–23,114, being three males and two young with the same history as the type.

Diagnosis.—A small 20 mm. species related to *H. parkeri* Loveridge, of East Africa, but with markedly shorter hind limb, smaller size, and different markings. *H. poweri* is characterized by a light lateral band from nostril, through orbit, along flank to groin, and the absence of all other markings except the minute black punctations, visible through a lens, which impart a purplish-gray effect to the dorsum.

Description.—Snout obtusely acuminate, its length, from the anterior border of the eye, slightly greater than the diameter of the orbit; tympanum hidden. Fingers without webbing; 1st, 2d, 3d and 5th toes webbed almost to the disk on their inner aspect, on the 4th toe the disk and last two phalanges are free of web. The tibiotarsal articulation of the adpressed hind limb reaches to the eye (in males).

Skin smooth above, granular on the belly, no strong fold across the chest. Males with a large subgular vocal sack and strongly granular disk.

Coloration.—Above, purplish gray (produced by numerous minute black points), a light lateral band from nostril, through orbit, along flank to groin; except for a slight darkening of the ground color (produced by greater concentration of the black points) above and below the lateral line, no other markings are visible. Below, pure white, freely speckled, particularly on palms and soles, by minute black points.

Measurements.—Type ♂. Length from snout to anus 20 mm., the three paratype ♂♂ range from 18 to 20 mm.

Remarks.—The enlarged condition of the gonads, together with the well-developed gular disks, preclude the supposition that these are the young of some larger species. The fact that only males were taken suggests that they had just begun to assemble for breeding and that the females had not arrived as yet.